

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 00265 231116Z
ACTION XMB-04

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FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6348

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 0265

DEPT PASS EXIMBANK FOR NORRIS AND BIERMAN FROM MORAN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SU, EFIN
SUBJECT: EXIM TEAM VISIT

1. PAYMENT ARREARS: IN MEETING JAN 18 WITH DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF BANK OF SUDAN (CENTRAL BANK) WE LEARNED THEY HAD THAT DAY TELEXED ORDER TO UBAF LONDON TO PAY FIAT-ALLIS THROUGH PITTSBURG NATIONAL BANK DOLS. 295,561.92, REPRESENTING PAYMENTS DUE APRIL 1 AND OCTOBER 1, 1977, ON POLICY/CLAIM NO. G-69-157/BG-9488. WE ARE TOLD THEY ALSO PAID TO EXIM ON JAN 19 DOLS. 4,981.36 INTEREST PAST DUE ON CREDIT 4464 TO SUDAN AIRWAYS. IN MEETING JAN 20 WITH CHAIRMAN OF RED SEA SPINNING CO., WE WERE ADVISED THAT ON JAN 16 THEIR BANK (PEOPLE'S COOPERATIVE BANK) HAD ORDERED B OF A NY TO PAY CITIBANK DOLS. 351,361.33 DUE CITIBANK UNDER CREDIT/ GUARANTEE 4827/28. HE SAID AMOUNT REMAINING PAST DUE WOULD BE PAID WITHIN 10 TO 12 DAYS. RED SEA PLANS TO REQUEST ONE YEAR RESCHEDULING SINCE PLANT STILL NOT IN OPERATION, APPARENTLY DUE IN MOST PART TO FAILURE OF SEVERAL PIECES US EQUIPMENT, LOST SHIPMENTS, ETC. WE ATTEMPTED TO STRAIGHTEN OUT SOME CONFUSION WHICH SURROUNDED DELINQUENCIES ON RURAL WATER CORP/JACUZZI TRANSACTION (MT-10896/MP 204) BUT LOOKS AS IF THIS WILL HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED WITH CLAIMS AFTER TRIP.

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2. NILE ROVER-PORT SUDAN WATER PIPELINE PROJECT: WE DISCUSSED THIS PROJECT FIRST MORNING HERE WITH AMBASSADOR AND SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICERS. THEY ARE ALL OF OPINION THAT PROJECT SHOULD NOT BE RAISED WITH PRESIDENT NIMEIRI AND THAT TEAM SHOULD NOT CALL ON PRESIDENT, GIVEN NUMBER OF OTHER MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES BETWEEN USG AND GOS AT THIS TIME AND LACK OF EVIDENCE PROJECT BEING GIVEN ANY CONSIDERATION BY GOS.

SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS WITH GOS OFFICIALS CONFIRMED EMBASSY'S
FEELING THAT PROJECT NOT BEING CONSIDERED BY GOS. WE
INQUIRED ABOUT PROJECT IN MEETINGS WITH MINISTER OF
IRRIGATION AND HYDRO POWER AND DIRECTOR OF NILE WATER
AFFAIRS. BOTH INDICATED THAT PROJECT NOT ONE OF PROJECTS
INCLUDED IN SUDAN'S SIX YEAR PLAN WHICH BEGAN JULY 1, 1977.
MINISTER SAID HE DOUBTED SUCH PROJECT WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN IN
FORESEEABLE FUTURE, GIVEN OTHER WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
PROJECTS CONTEMPLATED BY GOS. HE DID NOT KNOW OF ANY
SAUDI GOVERNMENT INTEREST IN PROJECT, ALTHOUGH HE MENTIONED
THAT SOME PRIVATE SAUDI ENTREPRENEURS HAD AT SOME TIME
IN PAST TALKED ABOUT IT. WE WILL INQUIRE ABOUT PROJECT
DURING VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA, BUT FROM HERE IT IS CLEAR
THAT THIS IS NOT A PROJECT GOS IS CONSIDERING AT THIS TIME.
BERGUS

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NNN

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